4th IMAGE DIALOGUE FORUM



European Project n° 677353



Access and Benefit sharing in animal breeding, conservation and research







Content

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- Specific characteristics of AnGR
- Gene flow of AnGR
- Impact of ABS measures
 - animal breeding
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 - research
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- Conclusions

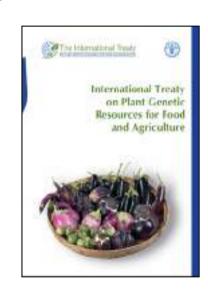




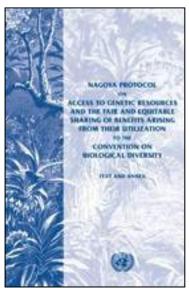
New ABS legal landscape

Since the Convention on biological diversity, 1992/1993

First ABS specialised instrument:
 International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture, 2001/2004



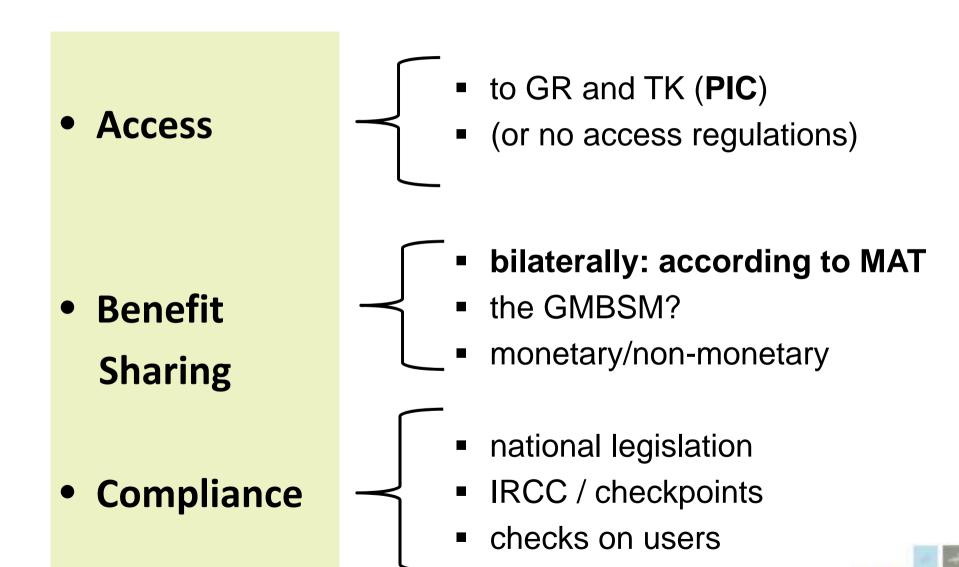
- Nagoya Protocol on ABS, 2010/2014
- EU ABS Regulation, 2014/2015

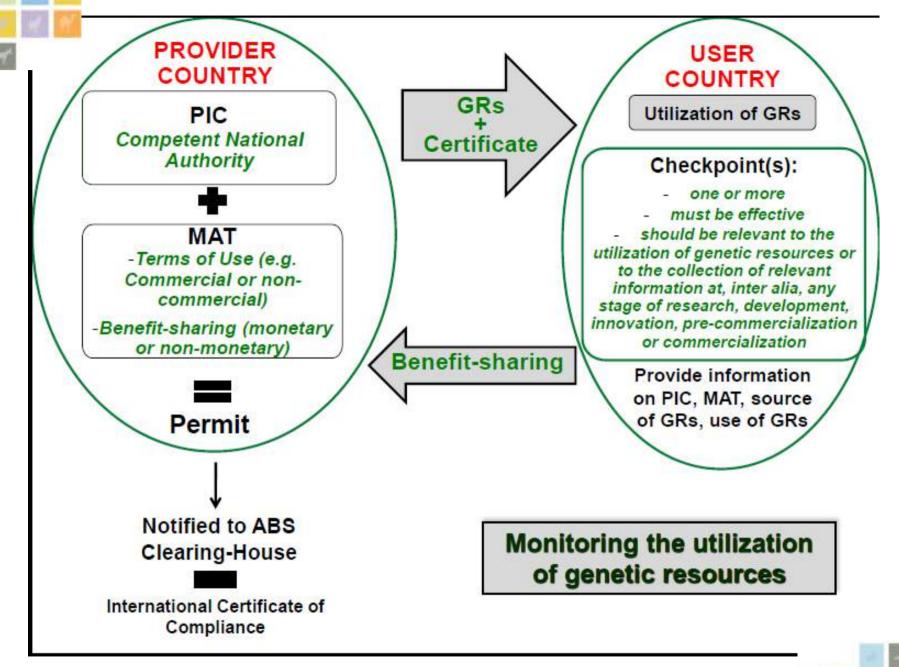






Summary: ABC of the Nagoya Protocol







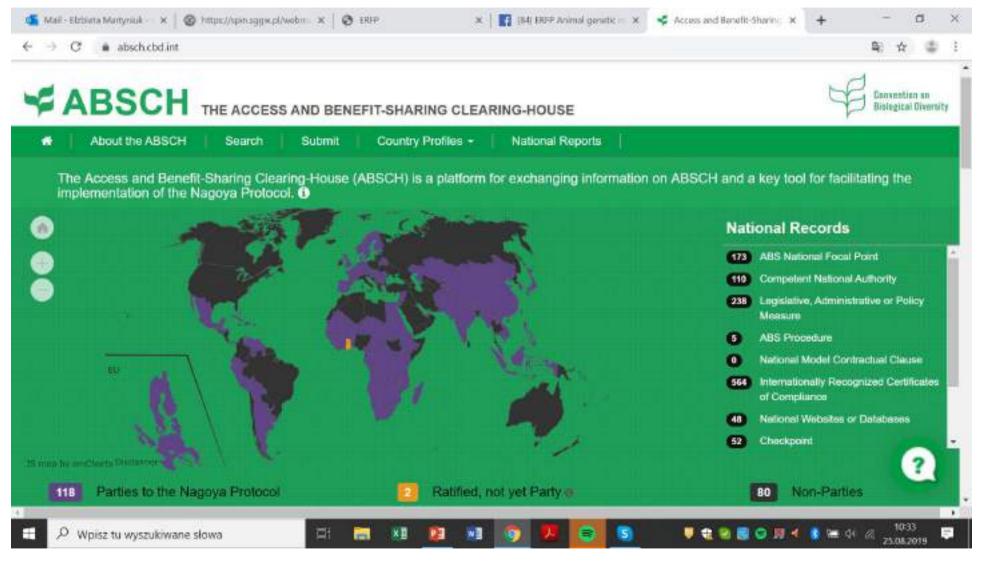
Nagoya Protocol: ABC

- Adopted 12 October 2010
- Came into force 12 October 2014
- As for 24th August 2019
 - Parties: 118 + 2
 - National legislation: 238 acts by 64 countries
 - IRCC: 564 certificates issued by 16 countries
 - Checkpoints: 52 by <u>25 countries</u>





ABS Clearing House







Specific characteristics of AnGR

Diverse breeding systems:

- pastoralists sometimes collective ownership with customary law
- small-scale subsistence farmers and smallholders individual ownership of livestock
- centralized breeding systems with breeding organizations private companies or cooperatives

Open market:

- domestic and international exchange by private-private transaction
- contracts from very simple to very sophisticated
- price according to the phenotypic/genetic value

Information standards on transfer germplasm set by:

- WTO: Sanitary and Phytosanitary measures (SPS)
- EU zootechnical legislation (pedigree, genetic value

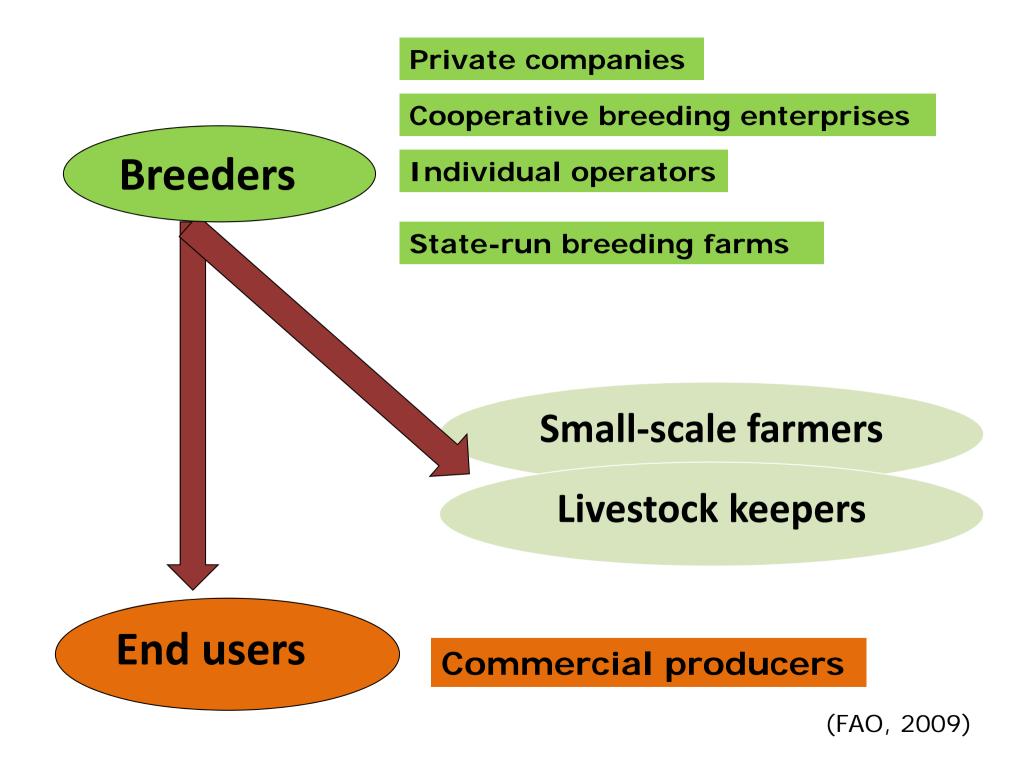




Specific characteristics of AnGR

- A wide range of stakeholders, including:
 - ✓ individual livestock keepers and breeders,
 - ✓ pastoralists and their associations,
 - ✓ breeding and herd book associations,
 - ✓ the breeding industry,
 - ✓ breeding and research centres,
 - ✓ conservation farms and facilities,
 - ✓ genebanks,
 - ✓ universities & researchers,
 - ✓ extension and veterinary services,
 - ✓ non-governmental organizations (NGOs),
 - ✓ relevant regulatory national authorities.







Specific characteristics of AnGR

- Private ownership
- Small part of AnGR in public domain
 - breding/researach stations
 - genebanks





Agro-biodiversity: sectoral differences

	PGR	AnGR
Ownership	public genebanks	private
Value of individual	low	high to very high
Exchange	s→N	N→N and N→S
Trading	farmers'/breeders' rights	bilateral agreements
Inbreeding	used extensively	not desirable
Breeding/testing costs	inexpensive	expensive
GM	possible/efficient	difficult/not accepted
Patentability (TRIPS)	varieties	breeds not patentable
Centres of origin	well defined	multiple domestication



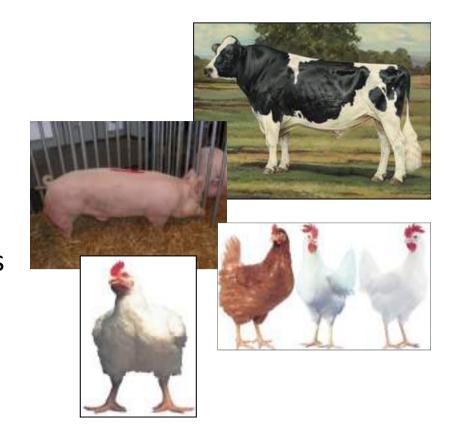


Gene flow of AnGR

Major gene flow:

N → N and N → S supporting enhancement of livestock production in developing countries "the Livestock revolution"

- Very limited S → N
- Rare examples on successful introgression of exotic AnGR to mainstream breeds (e.g. Meishan pig: early maturity, high litter size but slow growth and high fat level)
- Use of wild species almost negligible







Gene flow of AnGR

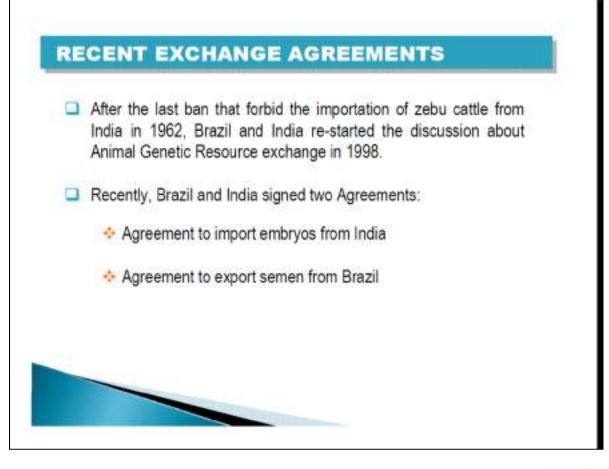
Growing S → S flow

Artur Mariante, 2013

Potentially will be most affected

by the Nagoya Protocol and national ABS legislation

3 years of negotiations between authorities of Brazil and Indie







Awassi sheep

Primitive fat tail sheep from Arabian Pennisula









Israel, ARO Volcani Center



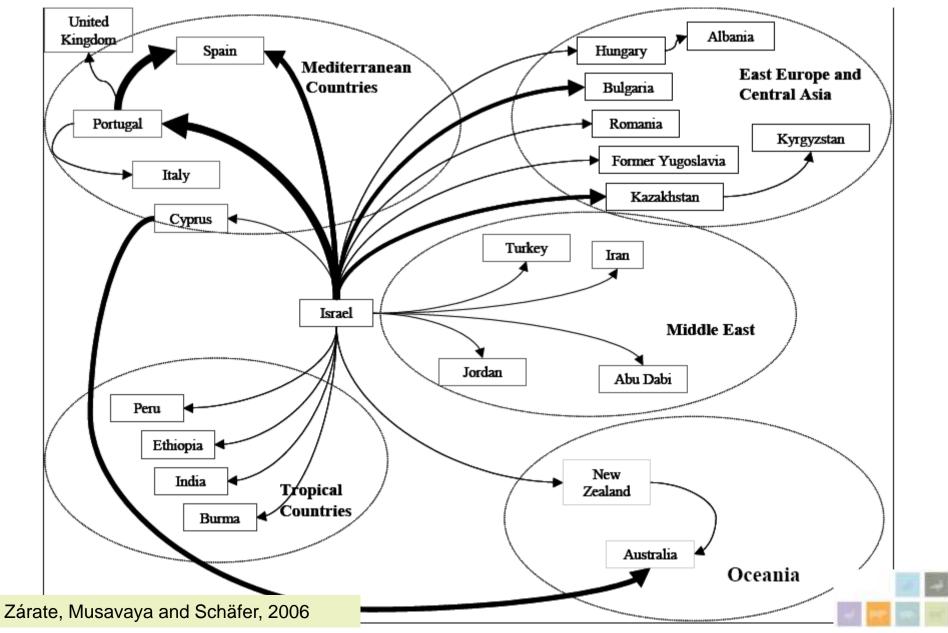
Assaf:5/8 Awassi 3/8 East Friesian





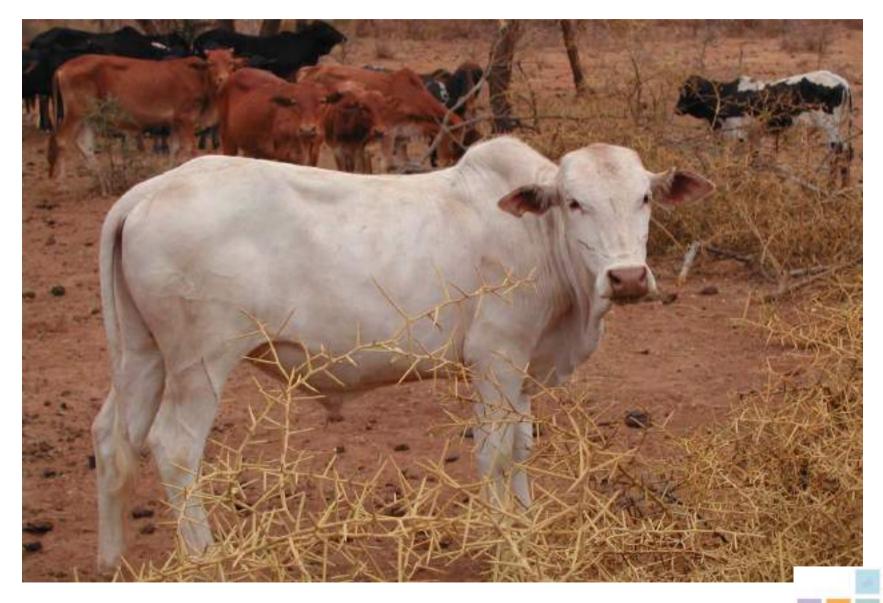


Gene flow of Awassi and Assaf

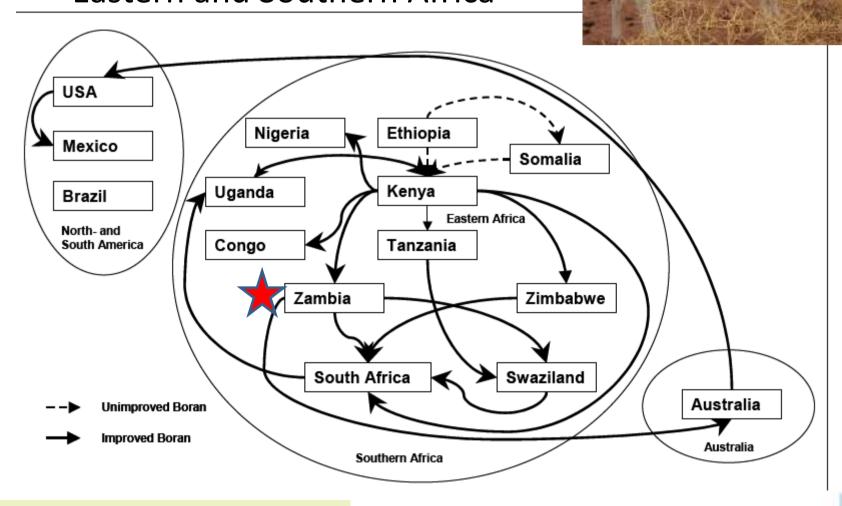




Boran



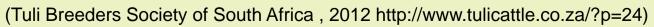
Transfer of Unimproved & Improved Boran cattle breeding material from Eastern and Southern Africa





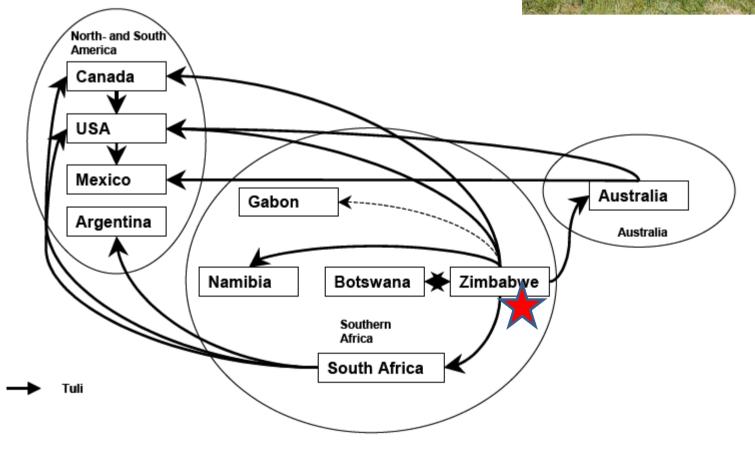
Tuli





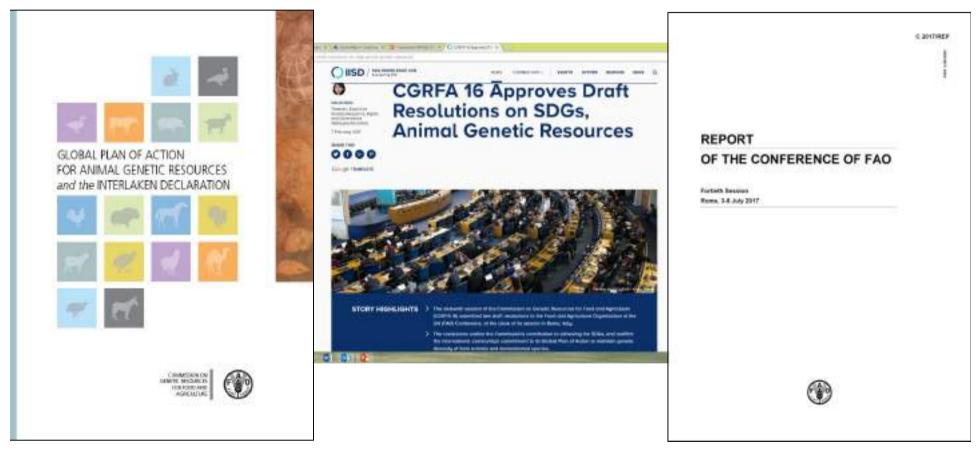
Transfers of Tuli cattle breeding material from Southern Africa







GPA: a soft international agreement renewed commitment to implement



2007

Interlaken Conference

2017

CGRFA and **FAO** Conference





Why do we exchange AnGR?

Welsch, E. J., Anim. Breed. Genet. 129 (2012)

For the livestock sector, there are three integrated contexts in which genetic resources are exchanged and used that may be affected by a new ABS regime:

- Market (breeding, multiplication, production, conservation)
- Research
- Culture

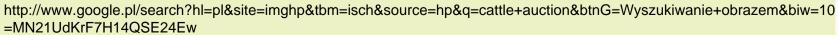
Exchange of AnGR is beneficial and smoothly running





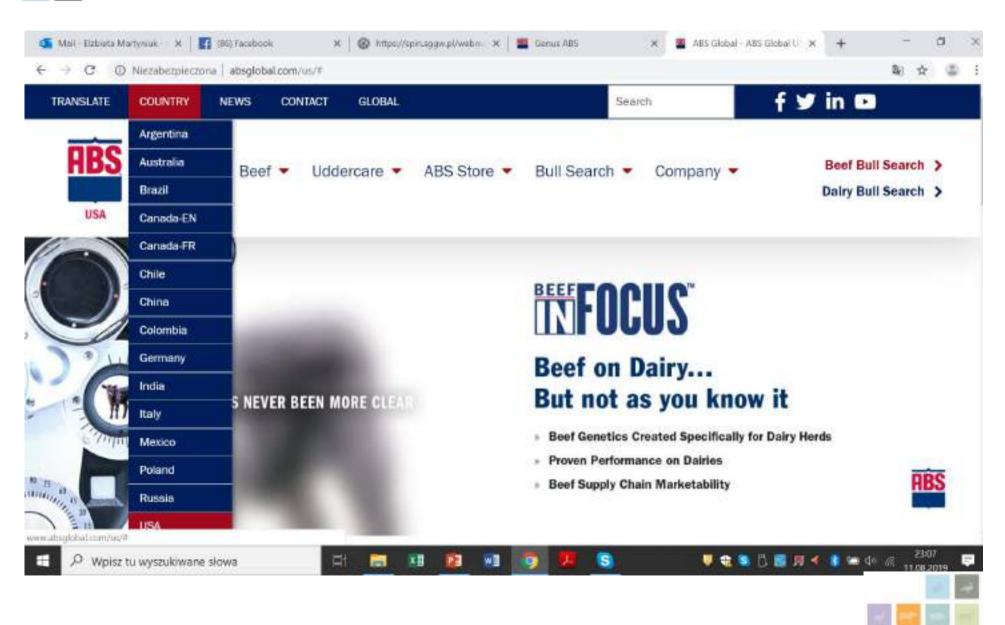
Commercial trade in AnGR





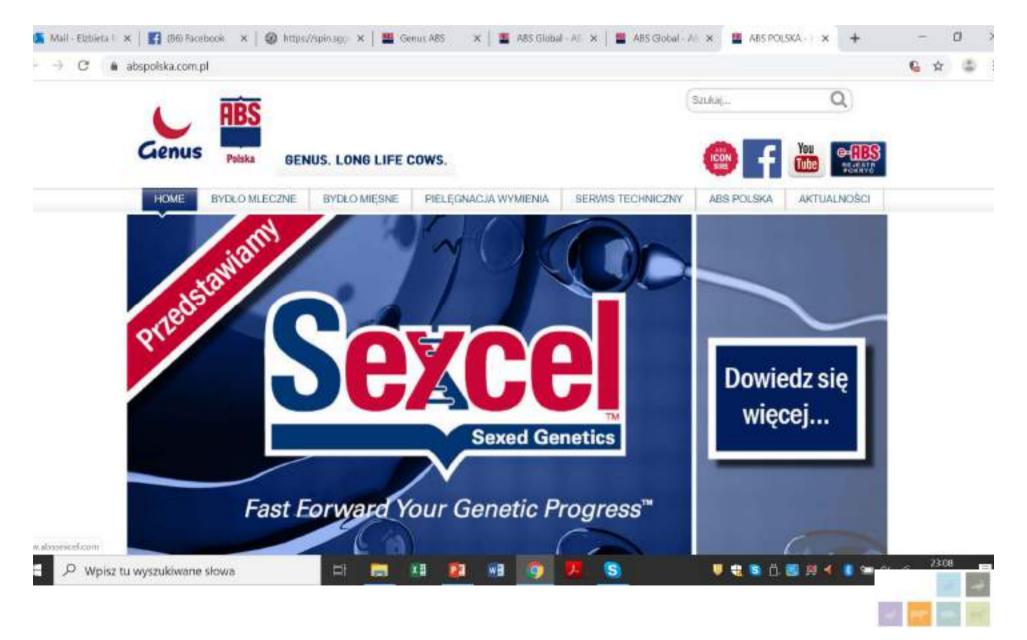


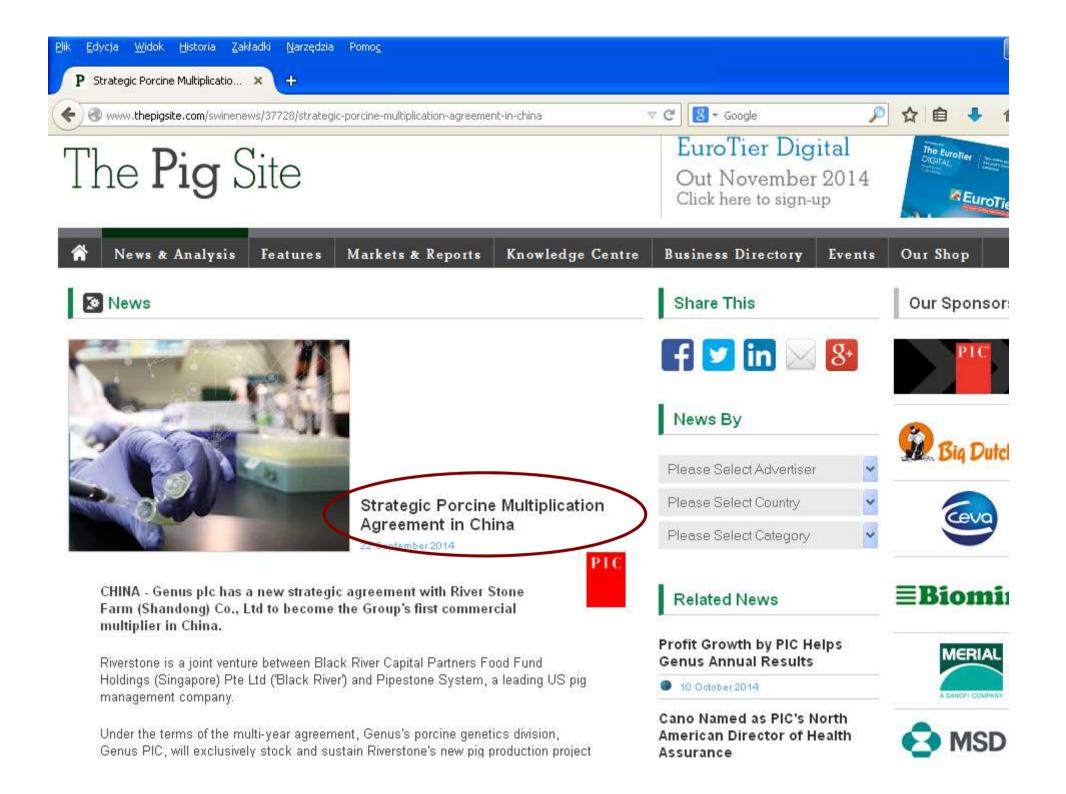
American Breeders Service





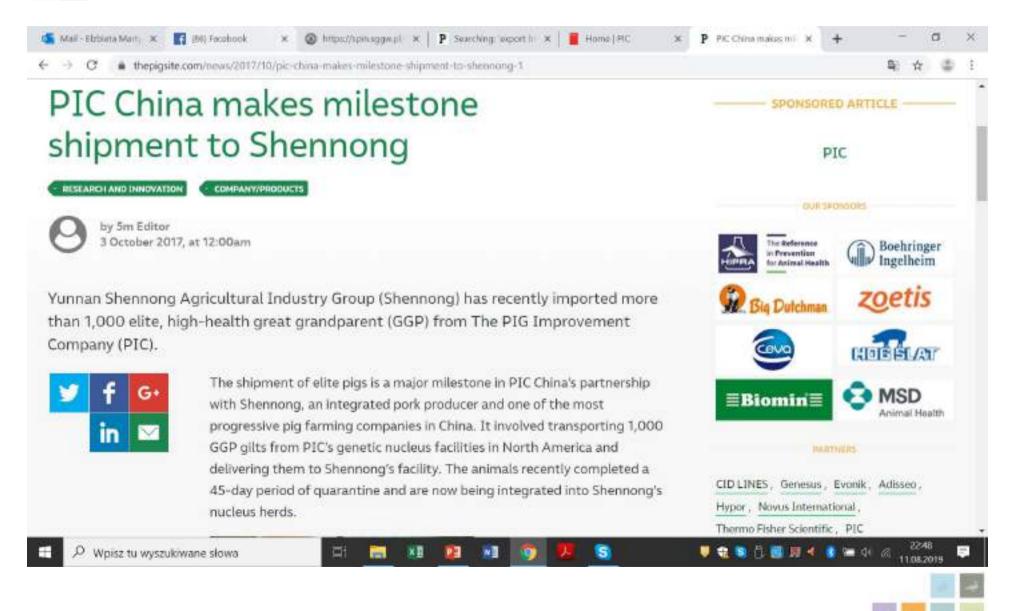
ABS Polska





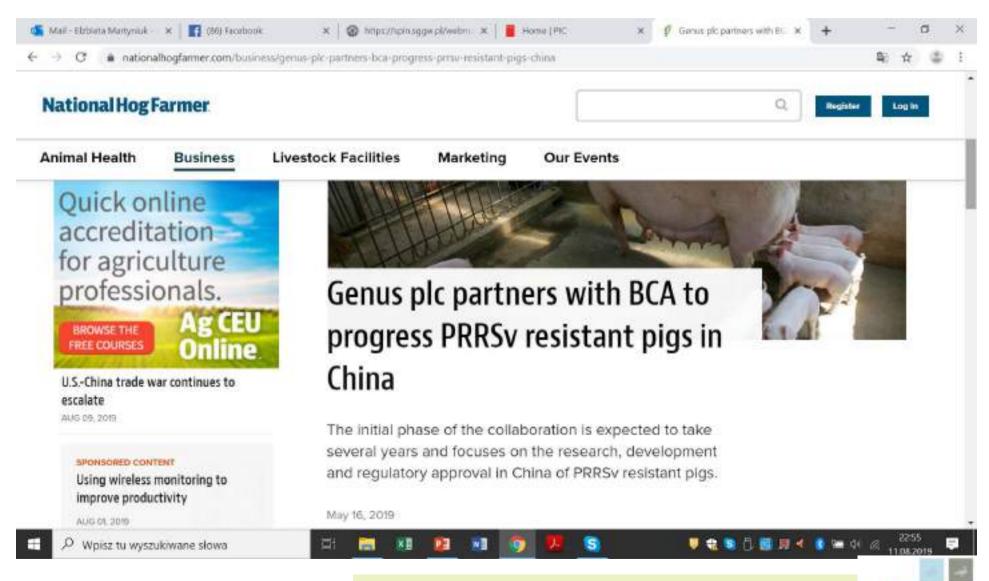


PIC in China





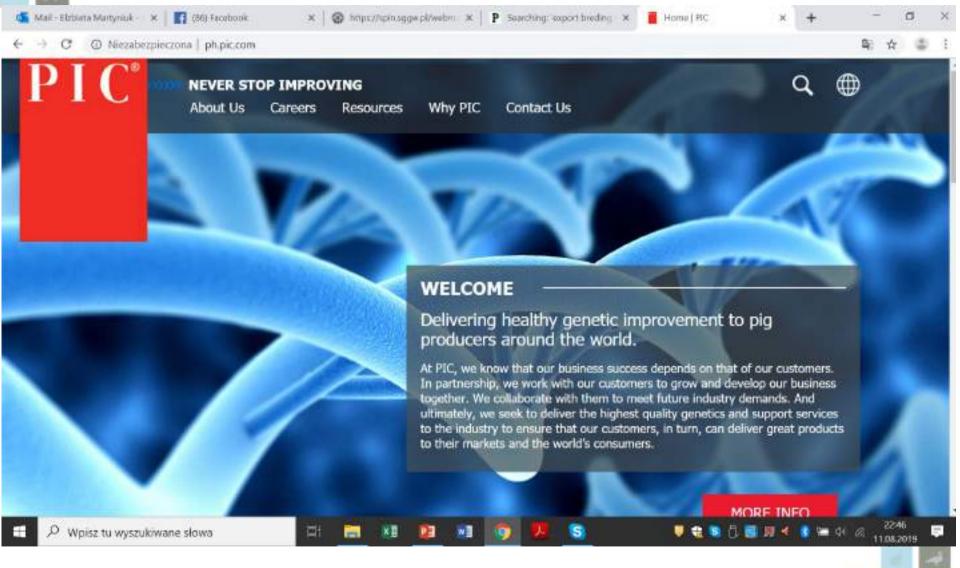
PIC in China

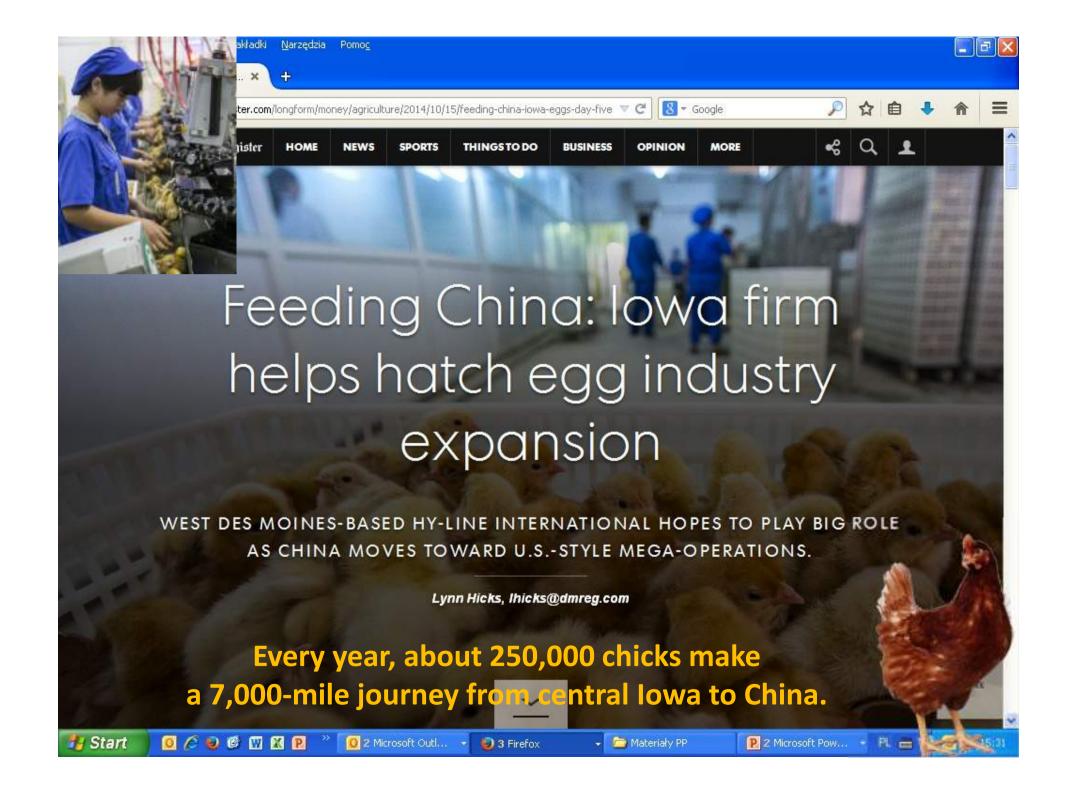


PRRS: Porcine reproductive and respiratory sy



PIC in Thailand

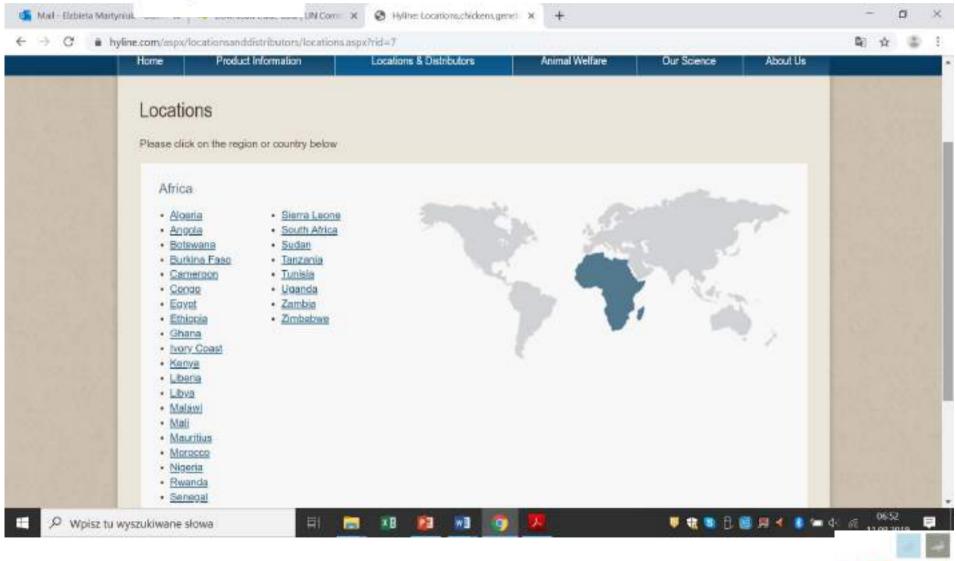








Sells all over the world





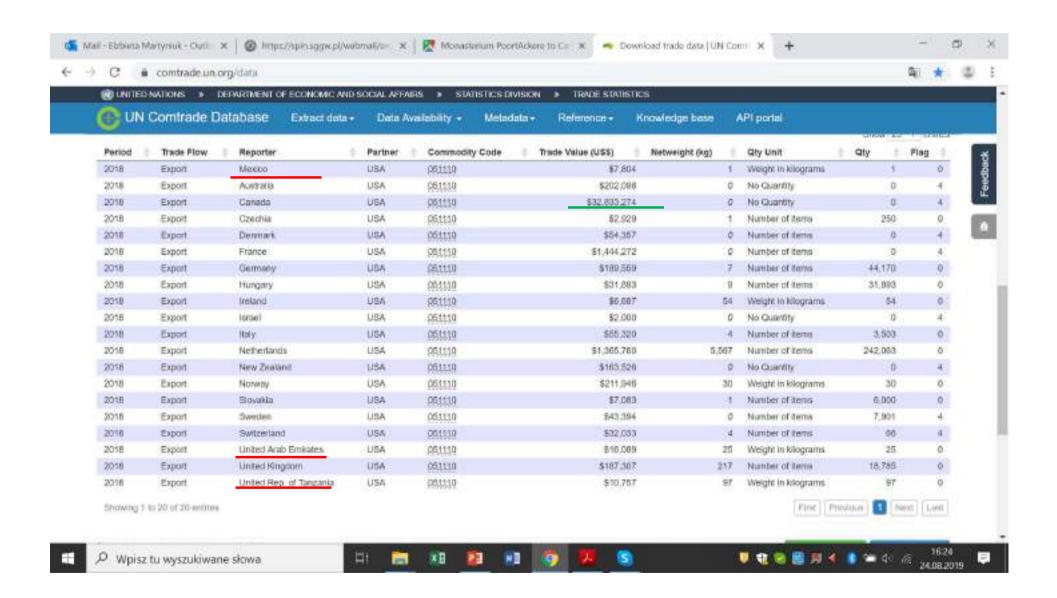
US trade value of AnGR in 2018 (USD)

AnGR	IMPORT	EXPORT
Purebred breeding cattle: live	3,556,520	76,960,782
Cattle semen	37,025,000	190,306,36 9
Purebred breeding pigs: live	666,770	13,876,109
Chicken below 185g	8,746,680	203,491,176
Turkeys below 185g	24,739,975	12,607,230
Fertilised eggs for incubation: chicken	19,790,373	315,184,649
Fertilised eggs for incubation: other poultry species	26,420,068	9,649,282
TOTAL USD	120,975,386	819,075,598

In 2011, the USA exported \$664 million worth of breeding stock and genetic material

https://comtrade.un.org/data

Import of semen to the USA: 37,025,000





Commercial trade in AnGR

- When selling animal genetic material (breeding animals, semen, embryos, fertilised eggs for incubation...)
 - the value of this material as a genetic resource is reflected in its price
 - the buyer usually is free to use it for further research and breeding
- The price of animals in fact includes a benefit-sharing agreement: the owner/supplier gets money in exchange for providing access to the genetic material
- In some case parties may agree on restrictions on the further use of breeding material and its transfer to third parties, either through contracts or through "gentlemen's agreements".

(FAO, 2009; Schloen et al, 2011)

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Impact of the ABS measures

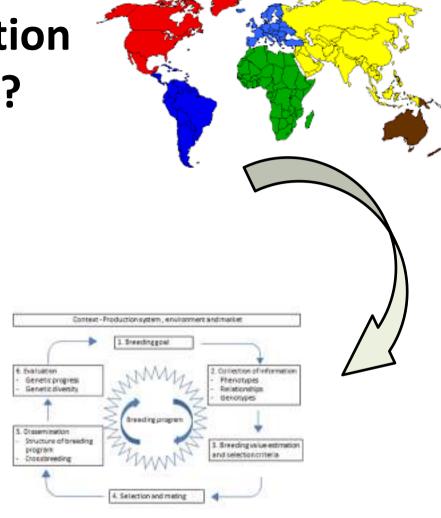




When ABS legislation becomes relevant?

Introduction from a country regulating access!

- New breeds/lines
- Individual breeding animals
- Any type of genetic material



Intested Form H. Huiter, Animal Sheating and Geromics Centre, Nagaringer University and Fassano

Users have to comply with national legislation of the Provider country! and fulfill obligations arising from the EU ABS law, if relevant





Impact of ABS measures: BREEDING

 Mainstream breed genetic improvement programmes are carried out within selected populations (breeding industry, cooperatives, farmers in national programmes)

At present no need for exotic AnGR (from provider countries in the south) to continue genetic progress in mainstream breeds

BUT

- Transboundary European breeds or imported breeds may require influx or exchange of breeding material
- Some European countries introduced access legislation
 - livestock GR is exempted from access measures (FR & ES)
 - other countries: not always clear
- Future needs? Resistance to diseases /adaptation to climate



Impact of ABS measures: CONSERVATION

In case of endangered transboundary breeds

- If there are national ABS measures in one country where the breed is present
 - Access to breeding stock / reproductive material might be more difficult
 - Collection of samples for ex-situ conservation might be more difficult
 - Developing joint strategies for conservation might be more difficult

AnGR conservation activities are usually undertaken and implemented at the national level, so potentially single difficult cases only





Svalbard Norway



Impact of ABS measures: **GENEBANKS**



BioBank Norway







AnGR GENEBANKS

- Animal genebanks quite difficult to manage:
 - ✓ Type of genetic material
 - ✓ Storage requirements
- Still a limited number of operational national genebanks (in public domain) to conserve AnGR
- Animal genebanks are mainly in Europe, growing in number
- Ownership of the genetic material
 - Stays with the owner od the donor animal (AU, FR)
 - Transferred to the genebank (NL, PL)





Impact of ABS measures: GENEBANKS

Need to:

- Document source of material that is introduced to the genebank
- Store this information and make it available for users
- Develop protocols and procedures for exchange of biological material
 - between genebanks
 - transfer from genebank to users
- Adopt and implement voluntary best practices, that include:
 - Standard MAA Material Acquisition Agreement
 - Standard MTA Material Transfer Agreement





Exchange of AnGR for research

- Exchanges of AnGR (genetic/biological resources) are usually governed by scientific cooperation contracts
- Some research organisations developed own model contracts
- Each party keeps the property of its inputs in the project
- No other use allowed than specified in the project
- Confidentiality required
- The scientific results, publication and potential IPRs are shared
- Remaining genetic material taken care of (give back or destroy options)

Global research community considers the facilitated exchange of research material between countries of a major relevance





Impact of ABS measures: RESEARCH

Research projects often require AnGR from countries regulating access to GR, including AnGR

- Need to follow requirements on access and benefit sharing of the Provider country: often require time and efforts
- Need to fulfil user obligations set by the EU ABS Regulation, if relevant
- Need to respect domestic ABS legislation of User country

The ABS legislation will have a highest impact on the European research sector





Impact of ABS measures: RESEARCH

When considering inclusion in the project AnGR from country regulating access one need to consider:

- Which Provider country should be chosen? if relevant
- What are access application procedure and requirements?
- What are experience of other users with accessing AnGR from this country?
- If all requirements are fulfilled (temporal, geographical and material) to be in scope of the EU ABS Regulation, if relevant

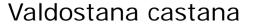
A decision where from access AnGR has to be carefully considered, as there are substantial differences in national ABS legislation and regulatory framework among Provider countries



Impact of ABS measures: Cultural exchange





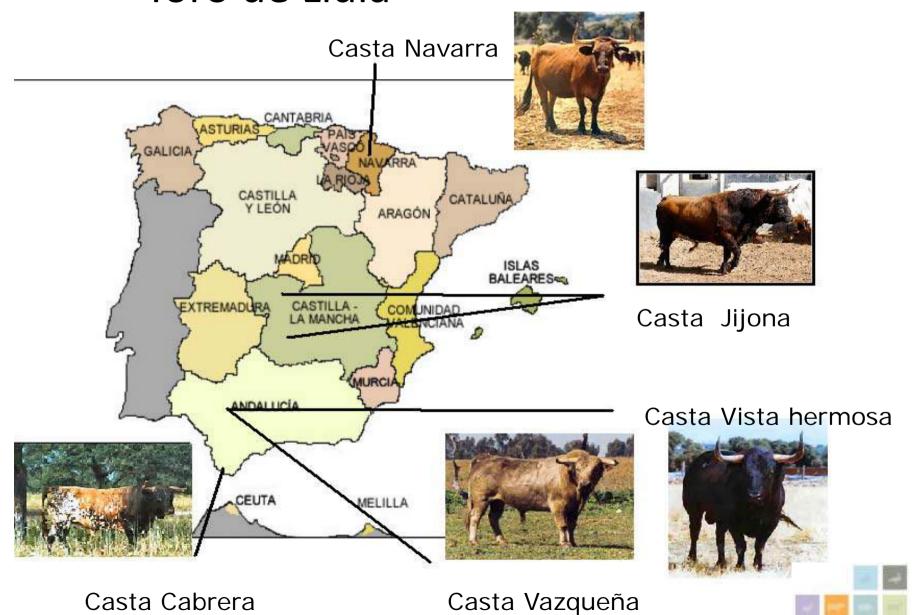






Toro de Lidia

Conor Desmond Cleary, Universidad Politecnica de Madrid, 2013





Cultural exchange

- Livestock farming is often a culturally embedded activity
 - A local breed is often strongly connected to farmer recognition of breed desirability and value
 - National governments and culture groups also identify strongly with particular livestock breeds
- It is not clear how cultural norms and practices will affect ABS implementation
 - Greater awareness of ABS may foster local initiatives
 - Cultural considerations could increase pressure on government to intervene in the market with ABS rules or regulations



ABS in IMAGE project

Two surveys have been conducted:

- As a part of a broad Genebank survey WP2:
 - ✓ ABS awareness
 - ✓ implementation of MAA MTA by AnGR Genebanks
- ABS National Competent Authorities:
 - ✓ National ABS measures for GRFA, and especially AnGR
 - ✓ Genebank specific measures in national legislation

Goal:

support Genebanks in their implementation of the ABS requirements



Conclusions: ABC of the NP and AnGR

AnGR Genebanks

Live animals/germinal products

Access	Relatively easy to regulate
B enefit sharing	 Unclear: ✓ Bilateral arrangements? ✓ Benefits towards the Funding Strategy of the GPA? ✓ Article 10 of the NP?
Compliance	Subject to national legislation, check points and monitoring -

feasible

Difficult to regulate! Ownership

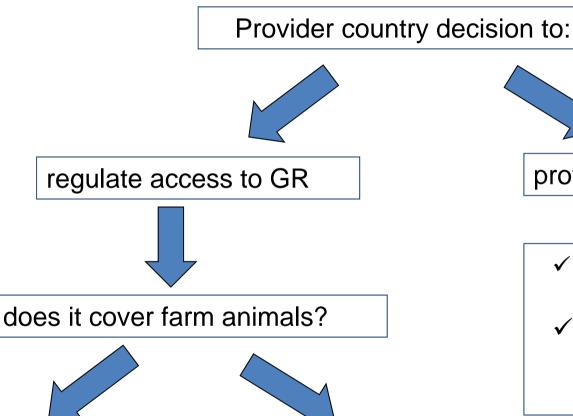
At present:

- ✓ Bilateral private contracts
- ✓ Price of AnGR reflects its value
- ✓ No additional benefits

Subject to national legislation, check points and monitoring - difficult



Impact on AnGR and Genebanks





provide free access

- no user obligations
- genebanks operate according to own protocols/procedures

YES PIC & MAT required

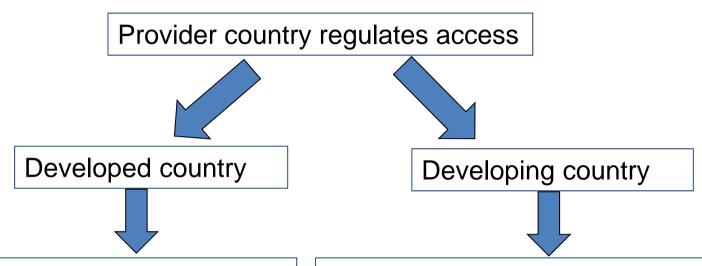


NO free access





Impact on AnGR and Genebanks



- ✓ Difficult to predict
- ✓ Depends on the scope (all/native)
- ✓ Impact proportional to importance of breeding sector in provider country

✓ So far meaningless uptake of AnGR from South to the North

but

- May create obstacles in the future
- ✓ May create obstacles in South-South exchange of AnGR

Research will be always affected



Different rules for different breeds?

Global trade in international breeds:

- Contribute to enhancement of livestock production, especially in developing countries
- Profitable for buyers
- Breeding companies usually do not expect additional benefits arising from utilisation of their breeding stock
- The price and ability to supply "products" provides sufficient benefits

Exchange of native and locally adapted breeds

- that may have desirable traits for future breeding needs
- that may have unique cultural /social value

might be/will be a subject of ABS measures







Thank you for your attention

